

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/665,579	09/19/2003	Mark Huetinck	LYALL.59549	6446
27629	7590 03/23/2006		EXAMINER	
FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP 200 OCEANGATE, SUITE 1550			CHAMBERS, A MICHAEL	
LONG BEACH, CA 90802		·	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
	,		3753	
			DATE MAILED: 03/23/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary 10/865,579		Application No.	Applicant(s)		
A Michael Chambers A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extension of time may be available used the provision of 30°CFR 1.736(a). In or event, however, may seply to tribus/find of 1. Properted for reply is specified above, the measurum statutory period will apply and will expire SX (8) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply which the exist or elample specified from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply which the exist or elample specified from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply which the exist or elample specified from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply which the exist or elample specified from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply which the exist or elample specified from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply with the exist of the communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any exercised patient term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.746(b). Failure to reply which the exist or elample specified from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to the specification is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s)122 is/are pending in the application. 4) Claim(s)122 is/are pending in the application. 4) Claim(s)122 is/are pending in the application. 4) Claim(s)123 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on		10/665,579	HUETINCK, MARK		
— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address — Period for Repty A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ∫ MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Edutations for mem pay be available under the provision of 30 FR 11300, in no event, however, may a reply be timely filled where 50% (5) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication of 30 FR 11300, in no event, however, may a reply be timely filled where 50% (5) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Falluls to repeat which has not or deceleded period for reply well, by statute, cause the application become BAINDONE (5) \$13.0.5, \$13.0.3, Are yeary received by the Office later than these months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any seated patient than a policy of the status of the communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any seated patient to mailing date of the communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any seated patient to mailing date of the communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any seated patients are application in seater than a policy of the mailing date of the communication, even if timely filled, may reduce any seated patients. Status 1)	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit		
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1-136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely find - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1-136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely find - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1-136(a). - If No period is reply is specified above, the maximum statutory partial will apply and will leagh 55 (M) MONTHS from the making date of this communication. - Falluse to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by exhaltence the application to become ABARDOXED (30 U.S.C. § 133). - Arry tray increased by this Citils start of FRI 1-704(b). - Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filled on	·	A. Michael Chambers	3753		
WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provision of 37 FR 11360, in no event, however, may a roply be timely filed other 5X (6) MXDTRS from the mailing date of his communication. Failus to receive the provision that of the communication of 37 FR 11360, in no event, however, may a roply be timely filed other 5X (6) MXDTRS from the mailing date of this communication. Failus to receive the the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, over if timely filed, may reduce any earned patient than adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(6). Status 1)		ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address		
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on	 WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing 	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tim vill apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from 1, cause the application to become ABANDONEI	I. lely filed the mailing date of this communication. O (35 U.S.C. § 133).		
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3 Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4	Status				
Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims Alpha Claim(s) Siare pending in the application.	1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on	<u>.</u> . ,			
closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4)	2a) ☐ This action is FINAL . 2b) ☑ This	action is non-final.			
All b) Scriffed copies of the priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). **See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.	3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is				
4)	closed in accordance with the practice under E	x parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	3 O.G. 213.		
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) □ Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) □ Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) □ Claim(s) is/are rejected to. 8) ☒ Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) ☒ Claim(s) is/are objected to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) □ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) □ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) □ accepted or b) □ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) □ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) □ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) □ All b) □ Some * c) □ None of: 1. □ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. □ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. □ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. Attachment(s) 1) □ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) □ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) 5) □ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	Disposition of Claims				
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.	vn from consideration.			
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	Application Papers				
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accomplicated any objection to the Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correct	epted or b) objected to by the Eddrawing(s) be held in abeyance. See ion is required if the drawing(s) is obj	e 37 CFR 1.85(a). ected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).		
a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. Attachment(s) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119				
1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	 a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents 2. Certified copies of the priority documents 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority application from the International Bureau 	s have been received. s have been received in Application of the documents have been received (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	on No ed in this National Stage		
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	_ ``	4) Interview Summary	(PTO-413)		
	2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)	Paper No(s)/Mail Da 5) Notice of Informal P	ite		

Application/Control Number: 10/665,579 Page 2

Art Unit: 3753

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-12, drawn to a valve with a lock, classified in class 137, subclass 385+.
- II. Claims 13-17, drawn to a method of assembly of a fluid system including a meter, classified in class 137, subclass 15.01+.
- III. Claims 18-22, drawn to a meter including assembly elements, classified in class 137, subclass 315+.
- 2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:
- 3. Inventions II and I are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make another and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the method of assembly can be used to make a fluid system other than that recited in the claims of Group I. For example the claims of Group I are drawn to a lock for a fluid valve and the claims of Group II are drawn to assembly steps for a fluid meter system. Similar remarks apply to the claims of Groups II and III (i.e., assembly claims, and a meter including elements which are combined to define a fluid system including a meter, respectively).
- 4. Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Application/Control Number: 10/665,579 Page 3

Art Unit: 3753

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to A. Michael Chambers whose telephone number is 571-272-4908. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur. 6:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gene Mancene can be reached on 571-272-4406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 coll-free).

A. Michael Chambers Primary Examiner Art Unit 3753

amc 03/17/06